This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a first predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated;

in a first ~~context~~application program, displaying a first display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the first display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control in the first ~~context~~application program; and

in a second ~~context~~ application program different from the first ~~context~~ application program, displaying a second display widget on the display screen responsive to said detecting, the second display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control in the second application program~~context~~.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identifying at least one of track name, track time remaining, track length, album title and album length in a multimedia application.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 7, wherein said step of displaying further includes displaying a multimedia control panel.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (previously presented): In a computer system having a first auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the first auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the first auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the first auxiliary control; and

changing the status information in the display widget responsive to a second auxiliary control other than the first auxiliary control.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 10, wherein the first auxiliary control is a headset or a microphone.

Claim 12 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identifying currently running applications.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of placing an identified application in the foreground of the display screen, responsive to a user's selection of the application using the auxiliary control.

Claim 14 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information including a task bar.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

detecting absence of the physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a second predefined period in which the auxiliary control has not been activated while displaying the first display widget in the first context; and

discontinuing display of the first display widget, responsive to detecting the absence of the physical presence.

Claims 16-17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the auxiliary control is one of a button or a key.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the physical presence is a hand of a user.

Claim 20-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): In a computer system including an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, the status information identified only applying to a single active application program.

Claim 27 (currently amended): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein a type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a first application program is active is different from a type of status information associated with the auxiliary control displayed when a second application program is active.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (currently amended): ~~The method according to claim 28,~~ In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information is messaging related information including ~~includes~~ one of the number of new or unread regular or high priority messages, an in box window, brief information regarding at least one of the most recently received messages, and alert status.

Claim 30 (currently amended): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein when a web browser is an active application program, the status information includes at least one of the most recently used searches, at least one of the most recently obtained search results, identification of previous and next web pages which may be visited, list of favorite web pages, and current page loading information.

Claims 31-33 (canceled)

Claim 34 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies contents of a clipboard.

Claim 35 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the status information identifies at least one of time, date, location, file type and size of most recently saved file.

Claim 36 (previously presented): In a computer system having an auxiliary control and a display screen, a method comprising the steps of:

detecting a physical presence proximate to or contacting the auxiliary control for a predefined period without the physical presence causing the auxiliary control to be activated; and

displaying a display widget on the display screen responsive to said step of detecting, the display widget providing status information associated with the auxiliary control, wherein the auxiliary control is a key representing a mathematical operator, and in a spreadsheet application, the status information identifies the result if the mathematical operator is applied to data in a spreadsheet.

Claims 37-47 (canceled)

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, wherein the first display widget and the second display widget are different.

Claim 49-50 (canceled)